

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



OnCampus ecoAmbassadors are college students who implement projects from EPA's partnership programs to help carry out the Agency's mission to protect human health and the environment. The program is open to ANY college student, regardless of program, age, or background. All interested students are encouraged to participate.

Why Pick 5?

Environmental action can mean doing different things in different places, but it begins by taking simple steps where you live. Doing your part means doing what you can do. By choosing five or more environmental actions and sharing your own, you are joining thousands of others who are doing the same to make a difference.

Examples of Pick 5 Actions

- Use biodegradable and environmentally friendly cleaning products
- Take public transportation and carpool to reduce vehicle emissions
- Plant a tree
- Join or start a green club in your community
- Recycle metals, plastics, and paper

Learn More

For more information, please visit:
www.epa.gov/pick5



Pick 5 Event

Pick 5 International is an EPA pledge-based initiative that encourages students to adopt and publicize environmentally friendly actions. By making a new pledge or telling us which actions you and your fellow students already take, EPA will make your spot a little greener on the "Map of Action." Pick 5 has simple suggestions under the categories of water, air, land, energy, waste and advocacy. Pick 5 encourages taking simple steps at first to show that anyone, anywhere can be more environmentally friendly.

EPA has tallied nearly 40,000 actions for the environment happening around the world. Through photos, videos, and the program website, EPA features stories about environmental action around the world to spread learning, awareness and inspiration. What's happening at your school? What have you seen while traveling abroad? Pick 5 can help you share your story!

Goals of a Pick 5 Event

- Empower students to pledge to be more environmentally friendly
- Encourage students to participate by creating Pick 5 sign-up opportunities on campus
- Publicize new and ongoing campus actions on the Pick 5 "Map of Action"

If You're Interested In:

- Learning about environmental action in other parts of the world
- Using multimedia or social media to start a campaign on campus
- Planning events to get students interested in environmentally friendly actions
- Talking to others and spreading awareness

... then a Pick 5 Event is for you!

See page 2 for a step-by-step checklist for a Pick 5 Event.



Students Taking Action

You're among the first Pick 5 Event participants! Through Pick 5 International, approximately 8,000 people around the world have pledged to take environmental actions — that's about 40,000 actions for the environment! By participating in a Pick 5 Event you will help to reach thousands more!

A Pick 5 Event is ideal for students pursuing ALL degrees and is recommended for students studying communications, education, environmental sciences, or environmental studies.

Checklist for a Pick 5 Event

Follow the steps below to empower students, faculty, and others on your campus.

☐ 1. Learn about Pick 5 actions.

Visit www.epa.gov/pick5 to learn about various actions you can take under the categories of water, air, land, energy, waste and advocacy.



☐ 2. Identify a campus or community event.

Search your campus or community calendar of events for upcoming "green" fairs, student organization outreach days, and other relevant events where you can host a Pick 5 sign-up event. If required, get your event approved by your campus student government or facilities staff.

☐ 3. Contact Pick 5 for help.

Contact Pick 5 if you need help deciding how to promote Pick 5 on your campus or want materials for your sign-up event. E-mail or call the Pick 5 Program contact (see contact information on the right). EPA can send you program handouts or prizes such as buttons or stickers for the first 100 students that sign up.

☐ 4. Plan a Pick 5 sign-up event.

Decide how you will promote Pick 5 and allow students to sign up. Decide whether students will sign up online using a laptop or signing paper pledge cards. Consider how you will tell your story (for example, what did you see while traveling abroad, or how did you pick your environmental actions?). Invite friends to help you by volunteering throughout the event.

☐ 5. Publicize the Pick 5 sign-up event.

Utilize multiple media outlets to get the word out about your event. Create a Facebook event and invite your friends. Promote the event in your school newspaper. Make an announcement about the event in relevant classes but be sure to check with the professor first. If possible, co-sponsor your event with relevant student organizations and campus officials to reach a larger audience.

☐ 6. Host the Pick 5 sign-up event and take pictures.

Host the Pick 5 sign-up event for fellow students, faculty, and other participants and keep track of how many people you talked to throughout the day. Remember to bring a camera and take photos of your group during the event and share them on the OnCampus Facebook page. Check out the tips for successful events on the right.

☐ 7. Fill out your completion form.

Record the information that you are required to report to EPA on the event completion form, including your name, date of the event, name of your college, a description of the event or events, the number of interactions (include any interesting comments), and additional comments.

Resources

Pick 5 Map of Action

Continue publicizing Pick 5 on your website! Embed the following URL and the Map of Action will update automatically.

http://blog.epa.gov/pick5/hp_maps/map?mw=950&mh=700



Tips for Successful Events

1. Find a suitable space.
2. Put up posters to advertise the event.
3. Create a Facebook event.
4. Ask friends to spread the word.
5. Plan to have snacks available – find out if you can get donations.
6. Arrange for music at the event.
7. Arrive early to set up the space, including snacks and music.
8. Use sign-up sheets to record attendance.
9. Create a written summary of the event.

EPA Contact Info

Pick 5 Program

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Pick 5 asks students to allow a few days for a return call. Contact the OnCampus team if there is no response from the Pick 5 representative.

EPA OnCampus Team

EPAOnCampus@epa.gov

EPA OnCampus Websites

Visit the EPA website at
www.epa.gov/ecoambassadors/oncampus



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